

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

SB 609 - HB 906

February 25, 2011

SUMMARY OF BILL: Removes the exemption from the Tennessee Community Gardening Act of 1977 for Blount, Carroll, Loudon, Rhea, and Sevier counties. Removes the current requirements that the Commissioner of Agriculture identify land suitable for community gardening and notify county agricultural extension agents and members of the General Assembly of this land in counties they represent. Authorizes local governments to establish community gardening programs; to work with the county agricultural extension agent to identify vacant public land available for community gardening; and to assist in the development of community gardens on vacant public or private property. Requires the Commissioner, by letters of agreement, to contract with participating local governments, agencies, and departments for the use of public land.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- According to the County Technical Assistance Service, this bill which encourages the development of community gardens will not have a significant fiscal impact on local governments.
- According to the Department of Agriculture, the Department currently has no involvement with community gardens and will not be impacted by the bill.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "James W. White".

James W. White, Executive Director

/jdb

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